# Text Description automatically generated Safeguarding Newsletter

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**5. Encourage them to tell you about concerns**

Remind your child that they should come to you if they ever see something inappropriate, mean comments or if anything worries them within the game.

**3. Set rules around spending money in games**

Have a conversation with your child to make sure they realise that is possible to spend real money on the game. Make promises that work for your family; perhaps your child will have to ask you for permission before they make an in-game purchase.

If you want more help to create these promises for your family’s internet use,

www.childnet.com/blog/putting-the-family-agreement-into-practice-/

**4. Make use of the safety features available**

* **Block and report**:  
  Make sure your child knows how to find and use the report and block functions.
* **Safety settings:**Set up the parental controls that are right for your family. You can also disable chat, set up Parent PIN and use Account Restrictions depending on the game.
* **Settings for under 13s:**  
  There are additional safety features for under-13s , so it’s worth checking your child’s account is registered with the correct age. Players under the age of 13 have a <13 symbol next to their username on the game at all times, however this is not displayed to other players.

**2. Help them understand the importance of personal information**

Check that your child understands:

* the importance of keeping their personal information safe
* that they should speak to an adult straight away if the chat goes from being about the game to meeting up offline, personal information or sending images.

**1. Stay engaged and have regular conversations**

Show an interest in the games your children are playing. This could be through having a conversation about what they like to play or could be through watching them play the game. You could even have a go at playing the games yourself! If children know you have an interest in the game, they may feel more comfortable talking to you about it or coming to you for help if they need it.

**Gaming Top tips for parents**

Whatever gaming sites your children use, advice remains the same. It is important to have a conversation with your child about the sites they use and carry on having open discussions. This will encourage them to come to you with any concerns they may have.

Involve your child in discussions and decisions about online safety and their internet usage. This will help them understand the importance of staying safe whilst having a great time online. It will also help to educate them about how they can keep themselves safe online and know what to do if something goes wrong.

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**Who can help?**

Every school has a ‘Designated Safeguarding Lead’. At Huntingdon Academy, this is Miss Yarnell, Mr Middleton and Mrs Want or Mrs Riley. Our Safeguarding governor is Mrs Ros Murphy.

If you have any concerns in relation to safeguarding, please feel free to speak to a member of our team.

**Useful phone numbers**

Children and Families Direct: 0115 876 4800

ChildLine: 0800 1111

Nottingham Prevent Team: call 101 ext. 800 2963/2965 or ask to speak to the Prevent Team.

Carers Federation, Action for Young Carers project:

0115 962 9351

NSPCC whistle blowing helpline: 0800 028 0285

FGM helpline: 08000 283550

Samaritans: 0115 941 1111